

Senate Resolution No. 32

Introduced by Senator Price

Relative to early childhood education

WHEREAS, Research shows that high-quality early childhood education programs benefit a child during his or her formative years; and

WHEREAS, A high-quality early childhood education program helps build a child's social skills and self-confidence, and gives a child the foundation of knowledge needed to succeed in kindergarten and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Children in low-income families typically enter kindergarten more than one year behind the national average in prereading and language skills; and

WHEREAS, Kindergartners who enter school behind are likely to remain behind as they move through the education system; and

WHEREAS, High-quality preschool generates about \$7 for every \$1 spent, yielding government savings on welfare, education, and criminal justice; and

WHEREAS, 85 percent of children's core brain structure is developed by four years of age, providing the foundation for their future health, academic success, and social and emotional well-being; and

WHEREAS, Studies show that children who have attended early childhood education programs are more likely to read proficiently by the third grade, graduate from high school, and pursue higher education, and are less likely to be held back, placed in special education, or become involved in crime; and

WHEREAS, A recent study by the RAND Corporation shows that for every dollar invested in high-quality preschool, the public saves more than double that amount in reduced special education needs, crime prevention, and other costs; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate proclaims the importance of early childhood education every year; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate promote early childhood programs with appropriate and meaningful activities that will educate the people of California about the value of preschool and other early childhood education programs, and that the Senators encourage their constituents to enroll their children in such programs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

Senate Resolution No. 32 read and adopted by the Senate June 21, 2012.

Attest: _____
Secretary of the Senate